29th January 1929]

A.—(*a*) Subject to the approval of the proposal by the Finance Committee and to the vote of the Legislative Council it is proposed to sanction from 1st April 1929 a special division with two subdivisions to localize the proposed 'short crop' areas in the Kistna Eastern and Western deltas.

(*b*) The principles on which the localization will be made are that the areas should be commandable with the existing full supply level of the canals, that the areas should be unconnected with the existing wet ayacut of the delta and that they should as far as possible be near the head of the delta.

Alleged insufficiency of water in the Kistna Eastern delta.

*1146 *Q.*—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the insufficiency of water in Kistna Eastern delta is the reason adduced by the Public Works Department for including under short crop irrigation several lands surrounded by wet cultivation in the ayacut of the delta;

(*b*) if so, whether the supply in the Eastern delta has been gauged after the elevated shutters on the Kistna anicut have been installed;

(*c*) what kind of distribution arrangements have been made to regulate the supply;

(*d*) whether correct lists of distribution pipes and ayacut registers of lands as irrigated at present are maintained with appropriate delta maps; and

(*e*) whether they are kept accessible to the interested public and if not why not?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The supply in the main canal is being gauged.

(*c*) The regulation of the supply in the Kistna Eastern delta is by Kistna Eastern division. Main canal head sluice at Bezwada and by the several locks, lockweirs, canal and channel head sluices and other masonry works throughout the delta.

(*d*) Correct lists of distribution pipes are maintained for all piped channels. Ayacut registers and ayacut maps have been prepared for all lands irrigated at present. All these are brought up to date as occasion requires.

(*e*) In 1925 orders were issued that pipe lists giving information on the following points should be supplied to the village karnams:—

(i) Serial number of pipe.

(ii) Pipe mileage.

(iii) Right or left bank.

(iv) Survey number in which the pipe is situated.

(v) Survey numbers of the fields commanded by the pipe.

The list should show that the groupings of fields under the pipes are liable to revision by the Government any time at their pleasure.

Owing to the resettlement and resurvey work in delta which has resulted in renumbering field numbers and subdivisions these lists have not yet been supplied to the karnams and this will be done as soon as resurvey and resettlement work has been completed.

In most cases, information in regard to the pipe supplying water to a particular field is known to the field owner and if not we can get this information by inquiries from the local revenue and Public Works Department subordinates.

Minor Irrigation

Lease of fishery rights in minor irrigation tanks in West Godavari.

*1147 *Q.*—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government propose to lease out fishery rights in the minor irrigation tanks and channels in panchayat areas in West Godavari district to the village panchayats concerned on the same terms as the Public Works Department channels; and

(*b*) whether Government propose to issue a Government Order in respect of the minor irrigation tanks and channels similar to the G.O. Mis. No. 1735 I., dated 11th August 1927?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Registrar-General of Panchayats reported that there were many applications from panchayats in three districts (Kistna and East and West Godavari) for the lease to them of the fishery rights in Public Works Department channels and tanks and G.O. Mis. No. 1735 I., dated 11th August 1927, was passed on this report. There has been no report or application concerning such rights in minor irrigation tanks and channels and consequently no proposal to lease them to panchayats has been considered by the Government.

Mr. D. Narayana Raju:—"May I know if the Government have got any objection to lease the fishing rights in minor irrigation tanks and channels to such of the panchayats as apply for them on the same terms as the Public Works Department channels are leased out?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered; but I would like to remark that the leasing of such rights in small tanks and channels may work hardship on poor people."

Mr. D. Narayana Raju:—"This leasing is taking place; so, I ask whether the Government has got any objection to leasing the rights to panchayats when they apply for them?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"The suggestion will be considered."